

Senate Study Bill 3185

SENATE FILE _____
BY LAMBERTI

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing an alternative teacher partnership grant
2 program and making an appropriation.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 5769XS 81
5 kh/je/5

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1 1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION == ALTERNATIVE
1 2 TEACHER PARTNERSHIP GRANTS. There is appropriated from the
1 3 general fund of the state to the department of education for
1 4 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30,
1 5 2007, the following amount, or so much thereof as is
1 6 necessary, to be used for the purpose designated:
1 7 For an alternative teacher partnership grant program
1 8 established pursuant to section 256.17:
1 9 \$ 5,000,000
1 10 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 256.17 ALTERNATIVE TEACHER
1 11 PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM.
1 12 1. An alternative teacher partnership grant program is
1 13 established to be administered by the department for purposes
1 14 of building partnerships to encourage the development and
1 15 utilization of alternative teacher preparation and licensure
1 16 programs in Iowa. The goals of the program are to strengthen
1 17 the pathways into teaching, support high-quality teacher
1 18 preparation, meet local demands for teachers, and ensure that
1 19 schools are provided with teachers who are well-prepared for
1 20 the realities of the classroom and to work effectively with
1 21 students. The department shall design the program to meet the
1 22 needs of the nontraditional teacher candidate.
1 23 2. The program shall encourage the development of
1 24 partnerships between school districts, area education
1 25 agencies, community colleges, accredited private institutions
1 26 as defined in section 261.9, and institutions of higher
1 27 education governed by the state board of regents. A
1 28 partnership consisting of at least one school district and any
1 29 one or more of the entities or persons specified in this
1 30 subsection may apply to the department for a grant award under
1 31 the program.
1 32 3. The objectives of an alternative teacher partnership
1 33 program developed and implemented by a partnership shall be to
1 34 recruit qualified individuals, provide recruits with monetary
1 35 support, work to place prospective teachers in the
2 1 geographical and subject areas they are most needed, ensure
2 2 prospective teachers have the necessary training, and provide
2 3 supervision throughout the prospective teacher's probationary
2 4 period.
2 5 4. The department, in consultation with the board of
2 6 educational examiners, shall develop the grant applications
2 7 for the program. Applications shall be upon forms and shall
2 8 contain information as the department may reasonably require,
2 9 which information shall include the following:
2 10 a. A description of the geographic area the program is
2 11 intended to serve.
2 12 b. A description of the eligibility requirements for
2 13 prospective teachers.
2 14 c. A description of how the program will increase the
2 15 number of highly qualified teachers in geographic and subject
2 16 area teacher shortage areas.
2 17 d. An evaluation component.
2 18 e. A description of the role each participant will play in

2 19 the partnership, including, but not limited to, the activities
2 20 each participant will contribute toward training, placing,
2 21 supporting, and mentoring prospective teachers.

2 22 5. The department, in cooperation with the board of
2 23 educational examiners, shall review grant applications. In
2 24 awarding grants under the program, priority shall be given to
2 25 partnerships that submit applications and that meet the
2 26 following criteria:

2 27 a. Are intended to place individuals who successfully
2 28 complete the proposed alternative teacher partnership program
2 29 in geographical areas or subject areas experiencing teacher
2 30 shortages as determined by the department.

2 31 b. Are intended to place individuals who successfully
2 32 complete the proposed alternative teacher partnership program
2 33 in geographical areas in which a high percentage of the
2 34 students are eligible for free or reduced price meals under
2 35 the federal National School Lunch Act and the federal Child
3 1 Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. } 1751=1785.

3 2 6. Uses for the funds appropriated for the alternative
3 3 teacher partnership grant program shall include but are not
3 4 limited to support of the program as follows:

3 5 a. To recruit, evaluate, monitor, place, and supervise
3 6 prospective teachers.

3 7 b. To provide preplacement and postplacement induction or
3 8 support activities such as teacher mentoring; internships;
3 9 high-quality, preservice coursework; and high-quality,
3 10 sustained in-service professional development.

3 11 c. To provide financial assistance and incentives to
3 12 prospective teachers including the costs of any scholarships,
3 13 stipends, bonuses, or other financial incentives for
3 14 supporting prospective teachers throughout the program.

3 15 d. To pay the costs of developing and administering the
3 16 program. However, administrative costs shall not exceed five
3 17 percent of the total program costs.

3 18 7. Funds shall be used to supplement, not supplant, moneys
3 19 received for purposes of the program from federal or local
3 20 sources.

3 21 8. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys awarded under the
3 22 alternative teacher partnership grant program shall not revert
3 23 to the general fund of the state at the close of a fiscal year
3 24 but shall be available for purposes of the program in
3 25 succeeding fiscal years.

3 26 9. A partnership awarded a grant under this section shall
3 27 submit a progress report annually not later than November 1 to
3 28 the department of education detailing the activities and
3 29 operation of the partnership.

3 30 10. The department and the board of educational examiners
3 31 shall do the following:

3 32 a. Evaluate, in cooperation with approved practitioner
3 33 preparation programs, the current nontraditional teacher
3 34 preparation and licensure options and requirements to ensure
3 35 that teachers have the necessary teaching skills and academic
4 1 content knowledge in the subject areas in which teachers are
4 2 assigned to teach.

4 3 b. Annually investigate additional sources of funding for
4 4 the alternative teacher partnership grant program and annually
4 5 evaluate the partnerships receiving funds under this section.

4 6 c. Annually, not later than January 1, submit, separately
4 7 or together, a report of findings and recommendations based on
4 8 the evaluation completed pursuant to paragraph "a" and the
4 9 investigation and evaluation completed pursuant to paragraph
4 10 "b" to the chairpersons and ranking members of the senate and
4 11 house of representatives standing committees on education.
4 12 The department shall provide assistance to grant recipients in
4 13 applying for any federal funds that become available.

4 14 EXPLANATION

4 15 This bill appropriates \$5 million to the department of
4 16 education from the general fund of the state for FY 2006=2007
4 17 for an alternative teacher partnership grant program. The
4 18 program is to be administered by the department for purposes
4 19 of building partnerships to encourage the development and
4 20 utilization of alternative teacher preparation and licensure
4 21 programs in Iowa. The goals of the program are to strengthen
4 22 the pathways into teaching, support high-quality teacher
4 23 preparation, meet local demands for teachers, and ensure that
4 24 schools are provided with teachers who are well-prepared for
4 25 the realities of the classroom and to work effectively with
4 26 students.

4 27 Partnerships consist of at least one school district and
4 28 any one or more of the following: school districts, area
4 29 education agencies, community colleges, accredited private

4 30 institutions, and state universities. An application
4 31 submitted by a partnership must include descriptions of the
4 32 geographic area the program is intended to serve, the
4 33 eligibility requirements for prospective teachers, how the
4 34 program will increase the number of highly qualified teachers
4 35 in geographical and subject area shortage areas, and the role
5 1 each participant will play in the partnership. The
5 2 application must also include an evaluation component.
5 3 In awarding grants under the program, priority shall be
5 4 given to partnerships that submit applications and that are
5 5 intended to place highly trained individuals in geographical
5 6 areas or subject areas experiencing teacher shortages and in
5 7 geographical areas in which a high percentage of the students
5 8 are eligible for free or reduced price meals.
5 9 Award funds do not revert to the state general fund.
5 10 Grant recipients must submit progress reports annually to
5 11 the department of education detailing the activities and
5 12 operation of the partnership. The department and the board of
5 13 educational examiners are directed to evaluate the current
5 14 nontraditional teacher preparation and licensure options and
5 15 requirements to ensure that teachers have the necessary
5 16 teaching skills and academic content knowledge in the subject
5 17 areas in which teachers are assigned to teach. The department
5 18 and the board also must annually evaluate the programs and
5 19 submit a report of findings and recommendations to the
5 20 chairpersons and ranking members of the senate and house of
5 21 representatives standing education committees. The department
5 22 must provide assistance to grant recipients in applying for
5 23 any federal funds that become available.
5 24 LSB 5769XS 81
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